

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/822,754

Examiner

Hien D. Vu

Applicant(s)

TAKADA, TOSHIYUKI

Art Unit

2833

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the communication on 6/7/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 13 April 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date 6/8/05.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.



**HIEN VU**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Yusuke Takeuchi on 6/7/05.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1 now reads:

1. An intermediate electrical connector comprising:

a circuit board having a plurality of contact portions arranged on opposed edges thereof to engage with two connectors that are attached thereto in opposed directions, respectively, and a pair of supported portions extended at opposite sides of the circuit board and perpendicular to an arrangement direction of said contact portions; and

a guide member holding said circuit board and guiding said connectors to a position for connection with said circuit board, said guide member having a support member being brought into contact with a face of said circuit board and supporting said circuit board at a predetermined position and a pair of columns at ends thereof, each of said pair of columns having a holding portion provided at a respective side of the guide member corresponding to that of said supported portion, wherein at least one of said supported portions has an asymmetric shape with respect to both said opposed

Art Unit: 2833

direction and said arrangement direction of said contact portions and at least one of said holding portions has a corresponding shape for receiving said asymmetric shape of said at least one of said supported portions therein.

Claim 3 now reads:

3. An intermediate electrical connector comprising:

a circuit board having a plurality of contact portions arranged on opposed edges thereof to engage with two connectors that are attached in opposed directions, respectively, and a pair of supported portions extended at opposite sides of the circuit board and perpendicular to an arrangement direction of said contact portions;

a guide member having a support member for holding and supporting said circuit board at a predetermined position and a pair of columns at ends thereof, each of said pair of columns having a holding portion provided at a respective side of the guide member corresponding to that of said supported portion, wherein said at least one of said supported portions of said circuit board has an asymmetric shape including a hole or a cut-off portion at an asymmetric position on one of the sides with respect to both said opposed directions and said arrangement direction and said holding portion has a corresponding shape to receive said asymmetric shape therein and wherein a projection extends from said holding portion and is plugged into said hole or said cut-off portion.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hien D. Vu whose telephone number is 571-272-2016. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-5.

Application/Control Number: 10/822,754

Page 4

Art Unit: 2833

HV

6/8/05

  
**HIENVU**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**